

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 15, paragraph beginning on line 4, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Plasmid constructs. Httex1p-GFP fusion proteins were created by placing alternating CAG/CAA repeats, coding for either a normal range or expanded polyglutamine tract, into the context of either a truncated [first 17 amino acids plus poly(Q) repeat] or complete Huntingtin exon 1 containing the proline-rich region and subcloning into pcDNA 3.1. Untagged Httex1p constructs were created from these GFP-tagged constructs by blunting the BamHI and XbaI sites surrounding the GFP cDNA and reclosing the vector. K6R, K9R, and K15R mutations in Httex1p were created through use of double-stranded oligonucleotides containing HindIII compatible ends, encoding the first 17 amino acids of Huntingtin (plus and minus lysine to arginine mutations in amino acids 6, 9, and 15), which were ligated between the HindIII site of pcDNA3.1 in the polylinker, and the HindIII site in exon I, immediately 5' to the CAG repeat. Double-stranded oligonucleotides were used to fuse the SV40 nuclear localization signal (MGPKKKRK) (SEQ ID NO. 2) to the amino-terminus of EGFP, and Htt amino acids 1-17 were then fused to the amino-terminus of NLS-EGFP to create both NLS-EGFP and 1-17 NLS-EGFP constructs. pEGFP-N1 (BD Biosciences/Clontech) was used as a control plasmid for EGFP expression. pCMX-betagal (containing the CMV promoter fused to the beta-galactosidase gene) was the gift of B. Blumberg (UCI)/ M. Tabb (UCI)/R. Evans (Salk Institute). A PCR fragment encoding amino acids 1-96 of SUMO-1 (lacking glycine 97 creating a SUMO-1 that is not susceptible to proteolytic removal by isopeptidases) was fused in frame to the amino-terminus of 97QP, 97QP K6,9,15R or 103Q K6,9,15R with SalI/NcoI linkers, creating "permanently" SUMOylated Httex1p in pcDNA3.1. pHAS-SUMO-1, pHIS-SUMO-1, and pHIS-Ubiquitin were obtained from M. Nevells (Princeton), A. Dejean (Institut Pasteur)/G. David (Harvard)/R. DePinho (Harvard), and D. Bohmann (University of Rochester)/G. David (Harvard)/R. DePinho (Harvard), respectively. Synthetic oligonucleotides were used to create NES-GFP as a derivative of C2-EGFP from Clontech with the NES of PKI fused in frame at the C-terminus (GFP-NESPKI). 97QP

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and 97QP K6,9,15R KpnI/BamHI fragments were cloned between the EcoRI/NotI sites of pUAST to create pUAST-97QP and pUAST-97QP K6,9,15R. The proteins encoded by these constructs contain full Htt exon 1 including the DNA encoding the proline-rich region, followed by the following amino acid sequence: GSTSSRAAAARGYL (SEQ ID NO. 3). The MDR1-luciferase (a kind gift of E. Stanbridge, UCI) and WAF1-pGL3-luciferase reporter constructs were used as previously described (30).